

Amendments to the Claims

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application:

Listing of Claims

1. (Currently Amended) A guidewire comprising:
an elongated inner core member including a proximal section and a distal section, the distal section including a proximal portion and a distal portion;
an elongated reinforcing member having a proximal end and a distal end, the elongated reinforcing member disposed about the proximal portion of the distal section such that the distal portion of the distal section is free of the reinforcing member; and
an outer coil member having a proximal end and a distal end, the outer coil member disposed about the distal section of the core member, there being no intervening layer of material between the distal portion of the distal section and the outer member;
wherein the proximal end of the outer coil member is located proximal of the proximal end of the elongated reinforcing member.
2. (Original) The guidewire of claim 1, wherein the reinforcing member comprises a nickel-titanium alloy.
3. (Original) The guidewire of claim 1, wherein the reinforcing member comprises a nickel-titanium alloy tube having at least one cut or groove defined therein.
4. (Original) The guidewire of claim 1, wherein the reinforcing member comprises a nickel-titanium alloy tube having at least one helical cut or groove defined along a length of the reinforcing member.
5. (Withdrawn) The guidewire of claim 1, wherein the reinforcing member comprises a nickel-titanium alloy coil.

6. (Withdrawn) The guidewire of claim 1, wherein the reinforcing member comprises at least one nickel-titanium wire helically wrapped about the proximal portion of the distal section.

7. (Withdrawn) The guidewire of claim 6, wherein the reinforcing member comprises at least a second nickel-titanium wire helically wrapped about the proximal portion of the distal section in an opposing direction.

8. (Original) The guidewire of claim 1, wherein the distal portion of the distal section of the core member has a non-circular cross-section.

9. (Original) The guidewire of claim 1, wherein the core member comprises stainless steel.

10. (Cancelled)

11. (Currently Amended) The guidewire of claim [[10]] 1, wherein the outer coil member comprises stainless steel.

12. (Cancelled)

13. (Currently Amended) A guidewire comprising:

an elongated inner core member, the core member having a proximal region and a distal region with at least a portion of the distal region including stainless steel, the distal region having a proximal section and a distal section;

an elongated reinforcing member including a nickel-titanium alloy disposed about the inner core member, the reinforcing member having a proximal end and a distal end, wherein the distal end terminates proximal of the distal section of the distal region of the core member; and

an outer coil member having a proximal end and a distal end, the outer coil member disposed over the distal section of the core member and at least a portion of the reinforcing member;

wherein the proximal end of the outer coil member is located proximal of the proximal end of the reinforcing member.

14. (Original) The guidewire of claim 13, wherein the distal region of the core member is stainless steel.

15. (Original) The guidewire of claim 13, wherein the proximal region of the core member has a diameter and the outer member has an outside diameter substantially equal to the diameter of the proximal region of the core member.

16. (Currently Amended) The guidewire of claim 13, wherein the outer coil member comprises a stainless steel coil.

17. (Cancelled)

18. (Withdrawn) The guidewire of claim 13, wherein the reinforcing member comprises a coil.

19. (Original) The guidewire of claim 13, wherein the reinforcing member comprises a tube having at least one helical cut or groove defined along a length of the reinforcing member.

20. (Withdrawn) The guidewire of claim 13, wherein the reinforcing member comprises at least one wire helically wrapped about the proximal section of the distal region.

21. (Withdrawn) The guidewire of claim 20, wherein the reinforcing member comprises at least a second wire helically wrapped about the proximal section of the distal region in an opposing direction.

22. (Currently Amended) A guidewire comprising:
an elongated inner core member including stainless steel, the inner core member including a proximal portion having a first cross-sectional area, an intermediate portion having a

second cross-sectional area, wherein the second cross-sectional area is less than the first cross-sectional area, and a distal portion having a ribbon profile;

an elongated ~~reinforcing~~ tubular member including a nickel-titanium alloy, the tubular member having a proximal end and a distal end, the ~~reinforcing~~ tubular member being disposed about the intermediate portion of the inner core member; and

a spring coil tip including stainless steel, the spring coil tip extending over the distal portion of the inner core member and the ~~reinforcing~~ tubular member;

wherein the proximal end of the coil tip is located proximal of the proximal end of the tubular member.

23. (Original) The guidewire of claim 22, wherein at least a portion of the intermediate portion and the distal portion of the core member includes stainless steel.

24. (Original) The guidewire of claim 22, wherein the proximal portion of the core member has a diameter and the intermediate portion has a diameter less than the diameter of the proximal portion.

25. (Currently Amended) The guidewire of claim 24, wherein the spring coil tip has an outside diameter, wherein the outside diameter of the spring coil tip is substantially equal to the diameter of the proximal portion of the core member.

26. (Currently Amended) The guidewire of claim 22, wherein the ~~reinforcing member~~ comprises a tube having tubular member includes at least one helical cut or groove defined along a length of the ~~reinforcing~~ tubular member.

27-29. (Cancelled)

30. (New) The guidewire of claim 22, wherein the tubular member includes a plurality of cuts formed therein.